

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice of support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide numerous benefits to consumers like me, including more choices in channels, programming, broadband and new television technologies.

By merging, the combined company will allow rural consumers such as myself to access local channels for news and weather information, the last being extremely important during our harsh and unpredictable Wyoming winters. And, just as important, the merger will bring the availability of affordable high-speed Internet service by satellite, a service I am currently unable to access due to my geographic location.

These tremendous benefits to consumers won't happen without the merger, which will be especially advantageous to rural communities where cable modems and DSL are not likely to be available anytime in the near future.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Internet service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger.

Sincerely,

Annette Murray Tait
P.O. Box 6615
Sheridan, WY 82801